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Mayor Tom Barrett issued the following statement regarding today's adoption of the 2011 budget by the Common Council:

"I extend my thanks to the Common Council for their actions on my 2011 proposed executive budget and congratulate them for keeping the City's tax levy below last year's level. I appreciate the Council's support of the \$17.35 million voluntary contribution to the City's Pension Reserve Fund. In these uncertain times, it was the right thing to do.

"I'd like to recognize the leadership of Alderman Michael Murphy, Chairman of the Finance and Personnel committee, as well as the committee members who approached and debated the budget in a thoughtful and thorough manner.

"Together, we maintained key investments in essential City services, made a significant contribution to our pension reserves and lowered the tax levy."